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DOR-00478

20 May 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR:

[ Chief, FPL Group ]

FROM:

[ Chief, Operations Group ]

SUBJECT:

Kazy Gimzauskas, Ladislav Niznansky  
and Kazys Palciauskas - Name Trace  
Request (U)

REFERENCE:

Memorandum from [ ]  
Chief, IMS/FOIA, Privacy and Litigation  
Group, dated 13 May 1981 (U)

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2004 2005

1. An intensive search of the files and indices of the Directorate of Operations has surfaced the following information concerning Kazy Gimzauskas and Ladislav Niznansky. This search surfaced no information whatsoever concerning Kazys Palciauskas AKA Kazimieras Palciauskas (see DOR-00474, dated 6 May 1981 which responded to a request by [ ] (U)

2. Kazys Gimzauskas has a file [ ] which contains the following information. A report from the Department of the Army dated 19 March 1952 from an unevaluated source indicated that Gimzauskas joined the Lithuanian Security Police in 1932 and reached the rank of District Chief. In July 1940, he was arrested by the Russians and imprisoned until June 1941. In August 1941, following the dissolution of the Lithuanian government by the Germans, Gimzauskas remained with the Security Police at the request of the Lithuanian underground movement. He remained with the Security Police until April 1944. This report contains the allegation that Gimzauskas had participated in the massacre of one hundred Polish officials at Vilna between 1943 and 1944. This information comes from an unevaluated source and no additional information was surfaced to confirm this. (S)

3. According to his file, Gimzauskas applied for emigration to the United States through the National Catholic Welfare Conference (NCWC) in 1947 and received a visa in September 1949. Later that month, however, he was rejected from emigration by the International Refugee Organization for unknown reasons (Gimzauskas believed this might have been due to his former membership in the Lithuanian Security Police). In April 1951, he applied again for emigration through the NCWC, but was informed that his application had been cancelled due

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to the expiration of the DP portion (sic) of the Displaced Persons Act of 1948, as ammended. In January 1951, he had also applied for emigration through the American Consulate at Stuttgart under the Polish Quota, receiving Quota number 2171. At that time, the American Consulate in Munich advised him that he would either have to emigrate under the Polish Quota or the Refugee Relief Act Program (RRAP). Gimzauskas decided in favor of the RRAP. In February 1955, he was disqualified for emigration under Section 212(a)(6) of Public Law 414 due to his having contracted pulmonary tuberculosis. In January 1956, Gimzauskas was found qualified upon re-submission of another X-Ray. In August 1956, the emigration case file for Gimzauskas was being held at the American Consulate General in Munich pending a final screening report from the International Refugee Program. At that time, the Vice Consul indicated that, to the best of his knowledge, there appeared to be no complications which would militate against the issuance of a visa for emigration. According to a document dated October 1957, Gimzauskas was issued a visa on 24 October 1956 and was described as being in the United States as of October 1957. There is no indication that Gimzauskas was ever a member of the Nazi Party, SS, Waffen SS, or quisling governments established under German occupation, with the exception of his membership in the Lithuanian Security Police during the Nazi occupation of Lithuania. (S)

4. Ladislav Niznansky has a file [ ] which contains the following information. Niznansky volunteered for the Czech Army in 1936 and served first as a Lieutenant and later as Captain from 1938 to 1944, at which time his entire garrison deserted to the Partisans to fight against the Germans. He was captured by the Germans in December 1944 and became a prisoner of the Russians in May 1945. In October 1945, he was reappointed as a Staff Captain in the Czech Army. In July 1947, Niznansky was called to the Espionage Section of the General Staff in Prague and informed that he was to go to Austria, pose as a deserter and attempt to contact and join Czech emigre groups. When he reached Vienna, Niznansky contacted the U.S. Army Counterintelligence Corps (CIC) and revealed that he had been sent to Austria by the Czech Intelligence Service. He was then utilized by the CIC as a double agent from August 1949 to January 1953. The information above was extracted from documents obtained from the Department of the Army, 430th Counterintelligence Corps. According to a CIA dispatch from Munich dated February 1968, Niznansky was employed by Radio Free Europe in Munich as of that date. (S)

5. In November 1962, the Czechoslovak news agency CETEKA reported that Niznansky was one of fourteen Slovaks who were

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accused by the Czech government of having been members of a fascist group which terrorized and murdered partisans in central and western Slovakia in 1944 and 1945. Niznansky, who was tried, convicted and sentenced to death in absentia, was alleged by the Czech government to have been the leader of the "Eidelweiss", a special unit of Hitler's espionage organization which was under the control of the German Army Staff in Slovakia. (S)

6. In an interview in November 1962, Niznansky admitted that he had been a member of the "Eidelweiss", but denied any war crime activities. Furthermore, he stated categorically that he had not participated in any terrorist activity and had not been involved in the murder of civilians. The files of this Directorate contain no additional information to confirm Niznansky's involvement with the "Eidelweiss" unit. A Visa Action Request from the Department of State (Form FS-493, in Niznansky's 201) dated 6 January 1972, listed his occupation as as a stateless journalist, who's purpose for entry is described as immigration. There is no subsequent information concerning Niznansky's immigration or the status of any naturalization action. (S)

7. According to information provided this Directorate by DDA/IPD, there is no indication that any of the three individuals listed in the reference has ever been the subject of an FOIA or Privacy Act request. (U)

OG/EIRS [ ]  
BASED ON [ ]  
FILE IN : 100-139- xref to [ ] and [ ]

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